

NEWS STATEMENT

Wednesday 3rd February 2010

For Immediate Release

OPTION PZ WOULD UNITE TOWN AND GIVE PENZANCE A BETTER FUTURE – SAYS GEORGE

The MP for the West Cornwall and Isles of Scilly constituency of St Ives, Andrew George, believes local people are looking for a solution that will save Penzance from a damaging and disastrous Option A and save the Isles of Scilly from the catastrophe of depending on a ferry link with distant Falmouth.

Mr George has been holding a series of meetings to discuss the future of Penzance Harbour and Isles of Scilly ferry link with interested parties in Penzance this week. He announced today that they were optimistic that they could “unlock a difficult and challenging obstacle to progress.”

Mr George added: “A new option - called 'Option Pz', because it has come from the people of Penzance and has not been foisted on the town from outside - would provide a stepping stone to a much more ambitious future for Penzance, its harbour and its economy. It would secure the Isles of Scilly Ferry Link and give passengers a better service and travelling experience.”

Mr George said they plan to unveil Option Pz in the coming weeks. It will have the following beneficial features and will:

- be less expensive than Option A
- not require another Harbour Revision Order
- at least achieve if not exceed all of the objectives of Option A
- enable Penzance and the project to work constructively with English Heritage
- offer a range of additional facilities and opportunities to develop the marine economy of Penzance
- reduce the amount of freight handling
- enhance and speed up the service
- improve health and safety standards

Further information cannot be provided at this stage, however, a further announcement will be made soon.

Ends

For further information Andrew George MP can be contacted on his mobile - 07779 224031 (if you cannot get through please leave a text with a number and Andrew will call you back) or his constituency office can be contacted by calling 01736 360020.